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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/752,464	01/06/2004	Marco Radice	2039-0169P	4911
2292	7590	10/18/2006		
BIRCH STEWART KOLASCH & BIRCH PO BOX 747 FALLS CHURCH, VA 22040-0747			EXAMINER HANLEY, SUSAN MARIE	
			ART UNIT 1651	PAPER NUMBER

DATE MAILED: 10/18/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

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EXAMINER
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ART UNIT	PAPER
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20061006

DATE MAILED:

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**Commissioner for Patents**

The remarks filed 9/26/06 regarding the alleged lack of acknowledgement by the Examiner for the foreign priority claim of International Application No. PCT/IB99/02077 are acknowledged. The acknowledgement of the foreign priority claim based on the Italian application PD98A000298 made in the Notice of Allowance is proper. The PCT document is not a foreign priority document. The parent case, 09/877,757, was filed as a continuation of PCT/IB99/02077 and there is no requirement that the PCT document be acknowledged in the instant application. The filing of a US application based on the PCT is de facto acknowledgement of the PCT.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Susan Hanley whose telephone number is 571-272-2508. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 9:00-5:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Michael Wityshyn can be reached on 571-272-0926. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

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AU 1651

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